IN CHECKED SUITINGS

Four Effects in Black and White at a Luncheon.

GOWNS THAT SHOWED THE MODES

The Trying Hat of the Hour and the Stylish Waistcoats.

Stripes May Be More Chie Than Cheeks Later in the Season-The Skirt of the Moment Shows Tunte Phases and Also Bell Phases-Lace Coats and Dust Coats in New Designs-A Swell Evening Coat-The Hot Weather Gowns.

The fashionable crowd has ebbed away from the city and, although seaside and mountain resorts are still lovely, country homes all around New York are open and filled with house parties. Still there are enough smart folk left in town to make the skirts were shorter than last season's appearing often in connection with the an interesting showing in the Park, on the Avenue and in the popular restaurants; and, at luncheon or dinner hour, even the women who have abandoned city for country are often in evidence at these same

In these days of automobiles it is easy



BLUE CLOTH SUIT.

to run into the city for a little shopping, or for luncheon or dinner, and the weather has not been hot enough to give one a distaste for brick walls and asphalt or to make one cling to country fastnesses

Even when the motor trip is not a feature of the lark, gay parties come in by train for the day or to put up over night, and only
a careful observer will note the change that has crept into the atmosphere of those public places where fashion's clans gather.

Several of these country parties were lunching at a Fifth avenue restaurant one day last week, and all included persons well known in New York's most fashionable set. One group had come in from Tuxedo the four women and the one man who accompanied them having been met by three other men, who had evidently come up from downtown offices.

Oddly enough, all four women were arrayed in black and white checked suitings -e coincidence which each woman, doubt less, resented hotly but the four costumes showed considerable vare v within their limitations and no two of the checked materials were exactly alike. The prettiest of the frocks was a fine French suiting in white marked off by hair lines of black and was made with one of the short loose boleros with short slashed sleeves.

The skirt was short, fully three inches from the floor, and plaited in groups of side plaits stitched down only a little way over the hips. A flat, turndown collar and sleeve trimming were of ceru linen embroidered by hand in white, black and



LAVENDER MUSLIN AND LACE. two shades of violet, and a loose short double breasted waistcoat of the embroidered linen showed between the widely open fronts. A belt of violet kid, a violet hat trimmed in black velvet and white wings, and a blouse of openwork batiste and valenciennes accompanied the frock.

Another of the group wore a severely tailored frock of shepherd's plaid in rather heavy English worsted, with a Russian green velvet collar on the long, close fitting coat and no other touch of color. Both coat and skirt, the latter a plain gored model, widely rippling at bottom, were supremely well made and, though the frock was not in itself so charming as some of the others, the woman who wore it looked more chie than any of her companions. Her hat was white, with green wings and green velvet and she carried a plain silk parasol, whose covering and stick were both in the vivid green.

Then there was a broken check in white and black, with a little silk fleck of Saxe blue at three inch intervals over the surface made in a loose bolero and circular skirt, with smoker revers and elbow cuffs of Saxe blue silk embroidered in black, white | favor of its good sense, and there is cerand a queer dull yellow. A surplice waistcoat tainly nothing more hopelesly ugly and buttons hung, like the bolero, straight to the girdle line, and the girdle was of folded up in case of really bad pavements. blue silk, fitted very snugly to give the

The fourth checked frock had a little the Tuxedotable, as it is in evidence in many

coat, double breasted, tight fitting and short, with revers of black velvet and black velvet

All four of the hats tilted forward in the approved audacious fashion and were moderately small, but only one was actually becoming. There's no getting around the fact that the eccentric little hat of the season, coquettish as it is, is well worn by very few women.

Not in many years have we had so trying, so exacting a fad in millinery as this one, and, humbly admitting that the hats are full of charming possibilities in connection with just the right face and coiffure, one may respectfully submit the statement that a large majority of the women one sees in the new hats look more or less like frights. The women themselves have realized this fact, and although the small tip tilted hat is the height of the mode it is not adopted even by all of the ultra-fashionable, and the milliners have been called upon to modify most of the bizarre models. Going back for a moment to the women

of the checked frocks, those frocks, while they showed a certain monotony of material, illustrated many of the prevailing notes in the province of the street frock or walking frock. For one thing, all four of walking skirt, and this characteristic is



of the smartest French traveling costumes; and the plain waistcoat is perhaps even more modish than the trimmed one, a severely tailored little waistcoat of pique most elaborately embroidered or braided

The skirt of the moment shows many phases, and just what we are to expect in the fall nobody can definitely say. The resurrection of the old time bell and umbrella skirts, with slight modifications, is a no means complicated. striking phenomenon in the sphere of the

the checked costumes by using bias bands of the checked stuff for strapping and trimming and often, not only in checked goods, but in other materials as well, self bands or bands of the same color as the frock, but of contrasting material are inset instead of being applied, the edges of the frock material being stitched down smoothly to the band.

Velvet is effective when let into broadcloth in this fashion and cloth is used in this way with silk, or silk with cloth. Bands of very fine transverse tucking in the same material as that used for the frook are seen upon some very successful wooler and silk costumes.

Vertical bands of lace reaching from hem to waistband are the only trimming of some exceedingly pretty full or sun plaited skirts in sheer, soft material. One of the frocks pictured in the large cut was made with such a skirt, and the bodies

and sleeves had the same lines of lace. A lace guimpe and draped bertha of lace a liberty satin girdle, liberty ribbon folded around the shoulders and tied in a bow at the front, two little bows of liberty ribbon at the throat, and others on the sleeves were the other trimming details of this model, which while hardly simple, was by

The lace coat, also illustrated in the large



these lace and mousseline gowns, and been some exceedingly chic models have turned out in a soft coral pink, relieved by cream lace around the throat.

The season of the dust coat is here, and new evening coats, too, are being designed for the protection of the filmy summe toilettes. Oddly enough, where frock bodices are of accentuated waist length the new separate coats show a decided tend-

There are, of course, the redingotes, the

ency toward Empire lines.



Directoire and Louis models, the box and semi-fitting tailor coats, and the frivolous little shoulder wraps, but the newest things in the dust coat and evening coat classes are short waisted Empire models, and one sees many such coats in cloth, silk, mousseline, &c., worn over restaurant dinner gowns or with dressy carriage toilettes.

The white cloth coat of the central group is a particularly attractive Empire model with its broad bands of Irish lace running from shoulders to hem and with the lacing across the back of the short waist. Another less elaborate Empire coat shown in one of the small sketches is as good in

its more severe way.

The latter was fashioned of champagne broadcloth of the lightest, most supple kind and trimmed in touches of dark brown velvet and lace. The broadcloths to-day are so light and soft that they may rank appropriately among summer stuffs, and for that reason the makers are using cloth for perhaps a majority of the best coat models, though there are, too, innumerable

attractive coats of silk. A particularly swell evening coat worn by one of a restaurant party was cut on Empire lines and made of what seemed to be a very coarse white net over white chiffon and sheer, delicately flowered silk.

The net skirts of the coat hung very full from an Empire girdle of large corded shirring, and at the bottom was set a deep flounce bordered and beaded by wide bands | freshened than a bodice.

of lace. A soft lace drapery went round the shoulders and jatoted down the fronts, and there were deep falls of lace from the

Another cost exhibited at the same place on the same evening was of black chantilly over rose color with wreaths of tiny roses and knots of black velvet ribbon for trim-

Genuine summer gowns have not been worn yet, though the silk mousselines, chiffons and sheer silks will be as appropriate for midsummer days as they are now, and these stuffs are worn for evening occasion now as they have been worn all sum-mer. An examination of a large number of sheer frocks ready for sending out from one fashionable dresmaking establishment showed no decided novelty of which mention has not already been made here.

Princesse lingerie gowns and frocks with silk coats and sheer skirts were well represented, and one of the latter deserves a line of description, not by virtue of novelty of design, but because its color scheme

of design, but because its color scheme was unusual.

The draped silk bodice with basque back was of striped silk, in a soft light silvery gray green and a yellow too light for brown, too soft for orange, too deep for apricot, a soft faded yellow with a dash of ripe apricot in it. The skirt was of white silk mousseline and lace, and heading the flounces were garlands of wee chiffon roses shading from the yellow whose description we have already attempted up to a pinkish buff and down to a brown with the same blush in it. The roses appeared too on the front of the bodice amid jabots of lace and headed the lace frills of the elbow sleeves. In these same fruity yellows shading from buff to brown was a silk mousseline frock flowered in a large rose design on a white ground and lace trimmed. A girdle was in one of the middle shades of the yellow.

yellow.

The lavender, lilac and mauve tints shad-

ing down to the purples are retaining their popularity, and there were several frocks in these tones among those referred to. One of delioate lilac silk mousseline was as pretty as it was simple, and the sketch, of it shown here will give a good idea of its details.

of it shown here will give a good idea of its details.

In pinkish lilac, too, was a frock of sheerest chiffon taffeta, trimmed with fine plaiting frills of the silk and cream batiste embroidery motifs showing lilac in the embroidery. The coat was one of the delectable absurd little garments, loose, vague, as much like a shoulder cape as a coat, and under it was to be worn a blouse of the openwork batiste embroidery in lilac and cream, with creamy valenciennes trimming it at throat and wrists.

A frock of fine white lawn trimmed in bands of transverse tucking and in lace was one of the simpler models, and is reproduced in one of the small plotures. A fine black and white striped veiling over pink united fresh delicacy with serviceableness and was one of the smartest frooks of the group.

of the group.

The new very sheer silks are a boon to the woman who spends her summer or pare of her summer at the seashore, for without of her summer at the seasoner, for without being warm or looking heavy they have firmness of texture enough to resist the dampness that leaves silk mouseline; chiffon and fine lingerie stuffs limp after one wearing. Silks of the radium type are being made up for seasoner use, and the chiffon taffetas, while not so exquisite and

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skirts belonging to very smart walking costumes.

Perhaps the difficulty of lifting the full plaited skirt when one encounters real nud or wet pavements has had something to do with the shortening of the skirt, but, whatever the cause, the result is here. Many women have their skirts cut barely to clear, but the most fashionable women unless their figures absolutely forbid it, are wearing their short summer skirts really short enough to be practical. The mode is not becoming to all and not im-



CLOTH EMPIRE COAT.

perative, but there is much to be said in

of white pique buttoning with round pearl awkward than a so-called short skirt held up as the skirt that just clears must be held The waistcoat of pique or linen was another fashionable detail in evidence at

checked frocks already described were also in strict accordance with Parisian dictates, and one may find touches of velvet upon almost any material. While checked suitings, voiles, &c., have had wide favor this season, their great popularity has prejudiced many women against them, and there are indications that

The embroidered collar and sleeve trim-

ming of linen or other wash material upon

frocks of wool or silk is one of the season's

fads, and another fad is the use of velvet

collars upon linen and other tub materials

lending themselves to a tailor finish. The

velvet collars noticed upon two of the

stripes are to be more chie than checks later in the season. Finely striped voiles eoliennes, suitings, silks, &c., are shown, in some of the newest models, and shaded stripes appear in beautiful new silk.

The Pekin black and white or white and colored striped silk that has been favored in Paris during the past year for revers. waistcoats, &c., with picturesque coats of silk or broadcloth, is still liked for the purpose, and whole coats of such striped silk are often made for wear with sheer skirts.

for the skirt, close over the hips and rippling | upon this idea, for the lace coat, in one form at bottom into graceful though extreme or another, is a feature of the season's fulness, is the most attractive walking | modes; and any evening one may see such skirt model that has ever been devised.

Tunic skirt effects are having a pronounced ogue, although, so far, only the famous French makers have exploited them vigorously, and they have not become common. The bell shaped tunic, shortest at the sides and falling over an underskirt or a deep flounce set on a skirt foundation, is the model most often seen in broadcloth and other wools, and variations upon this idea, with trimmings of lace, are used for the sheer materials.

Some of the models have square corner tunies slit all the way up the side in what might be called apron effect and trimmed with insert lace and lace frills, and other overskirts are of the peplum order, shortest in front and crossing over where the fronts meet below the waist line, but none of these more eccentric models is so graceful and pretty as the bell shaped tunic, pointed in front and back.

All of the various skirt innovations suggestive of panniers have met with indifference or disauproval at the hands of womankind, although some of the great Parisian dressmakers have been insistent in exploiting the tentative hip draperies, and a few fashionable women have accepted the idea. Panniers may come, but evidently their day is not yet, and, despite the fulness of skirt bottoms we seem to be in no real danger of hoopskirts, though fashion alarmists fill space in fashion journals with discussion of the threatened crinoline.

The encroachment of the trained skirt apon the province of the round skirt is more and more perceptible, and it is fairly safe afternoon functions later in the summer to assume that by the time the winter season comes the trained skirt will have regained much of the vogue it has lost during the last year. The very full skirt fulled at the waist and adorned with much horizontal trimming was irreconcilable with the train. but the later moldels bore no such handicap, and women love the trailing skirt because it gives grace and length to the figure.

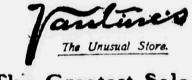
Horizontal trimmings, flatly applied or in the shape of flouncing, are still used. but, save in the case of lace or embroidery flouncing, these horizontal trimmings are very likely to be in self material or in something affording a little contrast. Tailors accomplish excellent results in making



folk congregate for dinner. For smart the lace coat with sheer skirt of mousseling or chiffon will be one of the most chic toilets, and so long as the lace is good, any kind from heavy Irish or guipure to chantilly or valenciennes is in order. The French still have a liking for dyed

laces matching the other materials used. and the model sketched here was in ocher tint lace and mousseline of the same tint In this case, the mousseline skirt was trimmed deeply at the bottom with lace matching that of the coat, but more often an entirely different lace is used upon the skirt, the coat lace being heavier than that which trims the mousseline.

Straw color is fancied by Parisians for



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